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PROMOTION OF FRENCH TRADE WITH ORBIT COUNTRIES

Propaganda Organization Conference

During a conference organized by the French Committee for International Trade, (Comite Francais pour le Commerce International), an organization which developed out of the Moscow Conference and which is responsible for propaganda in favor of more substantial trade between France and eastern countries, it was announced that two exchange agreements had been signed:

1. With Rumania, a compensatory agreement of one million dollars value, providing for the exchange of French iron and steel products for corn.
2. With China, an agreement of 2 billion francs value, providing for the delivery of French metallurgical, chemical and pharmaceutical products in exchange for tea, raw silk and other Chinese products. Other agreements may follow.

Delegation to China

A delegation of representatives from several professional organizations and banks, including the Banque de l'Indochine, the Banque Francaise du Commerce Extérieur, and the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, is to leave for China in the near future.

At the meeting, members of the French Committee for International Trade emphasized that better trade relations between France and the East must be achieved since "restrictions cannot last forever," and that the volume of French trade with these countries is only 2 percent of the total French foreign trade, while normally it should be 10 percent. They protested against discriminatory measures regarding Communist countries and the fact that many countries (Denmark, West Germany, etc.) had conducted considerable trade with eastern countries while France was forbidden by American authorities to have the same dealings.

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